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Morse Asks Probe of Justice's 'Bugs'

Associated Press

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) called yesterday for "an in-depth investigation" of past practices of the Justice Department in wiretapping and electronic eavesdropping.

He told the Senate an investigation was needed because of the recent admission by the Department of "electronic snooping" in non-security cases.

Morse said that acting Attorney General Ramsey Clark and Solicitor General Thurgood Marshall have shown a serious intent to conform Justice Department practices to policies declared by President Johnson in a June 30, 1965, executive order banning electronic snooping in all except national security cases.

Most of the Department's available electronic equipment in non-security cases, Morse said, has emanated from policies "authorizing the use of electronic devices at the time of the creation of the organized crime division in the Department of Justice in 1961."

Although he did not say so, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) was Attorney General at that time.

Morse also quoted a Feb. 24, 1961 memorandum of the Internal Revenue Service Commissioner as saying "the Attorney General has requested the service to give top priority to the investigation of the tax affairs of major racketeers . . . full use will be made of